STAUNTON.

FACTORIES WILL PAY.

The *Manufacturer's Record* contains another admirable letter sketching the advantages and opportunities of Staunton for large growth in profitable industries, from the pen of Mr. Thomas P.Grasty. Its title is "Where Factories Pay." It opens with practical suggestions about the necessary labor and finds the status of that class already planted upon the proper foundations in Staunton, and then continues as follows:—

"Show me a town with a good start in the way of industries, with craftsmen of various degrees already comfortably domiciled, with an established social system of their own, and I will show you a town possessing a tremendous machine for the acceleration of its industrial progress. With the other factors of success equal, such a town will easily outstrip its competitors, provided always it be not hampered by lack of organization; for in these days of almost feverish competition to make the most of the movement of industries from the North to the South, every edge must be made to cut.

The consideration of the labor question from this point of view was suggested by a cursory examination of some of the factories now in operation at Staunton, in this great, rich, prosperous Valley of Virginia, where are found such enormous wealth-producing elements that investigation forces the conclusion that industrial development here has barely reached its crysalis. It will grow and grow for half a century perhaps before its wings are fully unfolded.

At Staunton there are a dozen establishments each employing from 10 to 200 hands, mainly white. Moreover, there are no fewer than 150 white skilled workers in a score of minor industries from bakeries to cigar factories. Careful investigation discloses the fact that every industry in Staunton, big and little, is prospering. There is a shoe factory, a great tannic acid plant, two furniture factories, a canning factory, a wagon factory, a couple of carriage factories, five brick-yards, a foundry and machine shop, a flouring mill, four establishments for making sash, doors, blinds and the like, and other smaller concerns too numerous to mention, every one of which is running at full capacity, and in most cases with orders ahead for the output of many months.

Such a satisfactory state of things would be impossible at a town where labor was discontented. But far from being discontented, the skilled workman at Staunton has everything he wants, and the members of his family have everything they want that may be had anywhere in the Union. With a few more industries or even by increasing the capacity of those already in operation, there would gladly come to Staunton working people of a class whom no pecuniary proposal, no matter how tempting, could induce to locate in the midst of isolation. For here are to be found all those social and other requirements that workmen demand for themselves and for their families; and here are found, likewise, places for girls and boys to earn their share of the fund necessary to make the home comfortable and cheerful."

The letter concludes with the result of his personal observations of the character of the industries to locate here, and the stimulant which "The Staunton Development Company" can bring to bear on that line, and winds up with a good suggestion for utilizing the two hundred thousand pounds of wool that find sale here from the hands of producers in making factory goods.